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METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES AND SUPPORTING RESEARCH

National Hurricane Operations Plan

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Hurricane Floyd - 14 September 1999

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NATIONAL HURRICANE OPERATIONS PLAN

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CHANGE AND REVIEW LOG

Use this page to record changes and notices of reviews.

Change Number	Page Numbers	Date Posted	Initial
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Changes are indicated by a vertical line in the margin next to the change or by shading and strikeouts.

Review Date	Comments	Initial

FOREWORD

The Interdepartmental Hurricane Conference (IHC) is sponsored annually by the Office of the Federal Coordinator for Meteorological Services and Supporting Research (OFCM) with the goal to bring together the cognizant Federal agencies, together with representatives from the user communities, especially the emergency management community, to address and reach agreement on items of mutual interest and concern related to the provision of hurricane/tropical cyclone forecast and warning services. The procedures and agreements reached at the 54th IHC, which was held in Houston, Texas, February 14-18, 2000, resulted in this publication--the 38th edition of the National Hurricane Operations Plan (NHOP).

This edition includes a number of significant revisions and changes, plus some new additions. Seven action items, which were identified prior to the 54th IHC, were addressed during an open meeting of the Working Group for Hurricane and Winter Storms Operations and Research (WG/HWSOR). Three of the seven action items were closed through incorporation into the NHOP. Of the remaining four, two action items were withdrawn, and two were non-NHOP related and are being staffed by the WG/HWSOR. In addition, two other actions were identified during the course of the meeting for inclusion in the NHOP. They were the addition of latitudes and longitudes associated with the defining points for tropical cyclone watches and warnings (new Appendix B) and the addition of an appendix for Joint Typhoon Warning Center (JTWC) products (new Appendix C).

Another significant addition is a new appendix (Appendix A) on local National Weather Service (NWS) Office products; for example, the Hurricane Local Statement, which support the tropical cyclone forecast and warning program and are tailored to the needs of local users. In Chapter 5, *Aircraft Reconnaissance*, the section on Air Traffic Control (ATC) Clearances was revised to incorporate the procedures that are documented in a letter of agreement between the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and the Air Force Reserve Command (AFRC). The updated Chapter 5 also includes a new figure which reflects the differences in the structure of the Vortex Data Message and the Supplementary Vortex Data Message between the WC-130H and WC-130J. Chapter 6, *Satellite Reconnaissance*, Chapter 8, *National Data Buoy Center Reporting Stations*, and Chapter 9, *Marine Weather Broadcasts*, were also substantially updated.

The active 1999 season, which included Hurricanes Floyd and Lenny whose names were retired, tested our multiagency tropical cyclone warning support system, and, once again, the system responded in an highly effective manner--a tribute to the dedication and cooperation of the civilian and military agencies involved.

SAMUEL P. WILLIAMSON
Federal Coordinator for Meteorological
Services and Supporting Research

NATIONAL HURRICANE OPERATIONS PLAN

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